

REMARKS

Claims 1-14 are pending in the application, and claims 1-3 and 9-11 stand rejected. Claims 4-8 and 13-14 are indicated as being allowable. Applicants respectfully disagree but in the interest of passing this case to issue have amended claim 1 to include all limitations of claims 2-4, amended claim 9 to include all limitations of claims 10-13, amended claim 14 to include all limitations of claims 9-12, and canceled claims 2-4 and 10-13 without prejudice and expressly reserving the right to present these and any other claims in one or more related applications.

In view of the above, Applicants submit that the application is now in condition for allowance and respectfully urge the Examiner to pass this case to issue.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required or credit overpayment to deposit account no. 12-0415. In particular, if this response is not timely filed, the Commissioner is authorized to treat this response as including a petition to extend the time period pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) requesting an extension of time of the number of months necessary to make this response timely filed and the petition fee due in connection therewith may be charged to deposit account no. 12-0415.

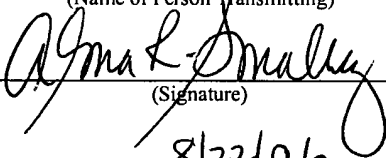
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Post Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

August 22, 2006

(Date of Transmission)

Alma Smalling

(Name of Person Transmitting)

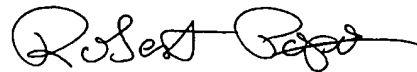


(Signature)

8/22/06

(Date)

Respectfully submitted,



Robert Popa

Attorney for Applicants

Reg. No. 43,010

LADAS & PARRY

5670 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 2100

Los Angeles, California 90036

(323) 934-2300 voice

(323) 934-0202 facsimile

rpopa@ladasperry.com